

Message Text

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: DPC HANDLING OF FORCE PROPOSALS/GOALS

REF: USNATO 1955

1. WE APPRECIATE MISSION ANALYSIS OF PROGRESS TO DATE AND
PROPOSED REMEDIAL STEPS FOR FUTURE FORCE PROPOSALS/FORCE
GOALS EXERCISE.

2. US IS CURRENTLY REVIEWING ENTIRE FORCE PLANNING CYCLE.
MUCH OF WORK TO DATE COINCIDES EITHER COMPLETELY OR IN
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MOST PART WITH MISSION VIEWS.

3. MISSION APPROACH FOR USE IN DPC AS IDENTIFIED IN PARA 4
REFTEL IS APPROVED WITH FOLLOWING CHANGES AND COMMENTS:

A. PARA 4B. ADD A NEW SENTENCE AT END: QTE SUGGEST THAT THESE POTENTIAL AREAS FOR STANDARDIZATION SHOULD BE KEPT UNDER REVIEW BY THE DPC. RECOMMEND THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL INVITE AN APPROPRIATE HIGH-LEVEL OFFICER OF HIS STAFF (E.G., THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL FOR DEFENSE SUPPORT) TO MAINTAIN A WATCHING BRIEF ON STANDARDIZATION. UNQTE.

B. PARA 4C: WE WOULD PREFER SELECTION OF A FEW SPECIFIC MEASURES RELATED TO QTE BASIC ISSUES. UNQTE

C. PARA 4D: WE AGREE THAT MINISTERS MAY WISH TO DISCUSS NATO FORCE GOALS AND THE PROBLEMS IN THEIR DEVELOPMENT AND TO GIVE THEIR FIRST THOUGHTS ON THE NEXT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. HOWEVER, AT MOMENT, MISSION SHOULD NOT GO BEYOND SUGGESTING THAT MINISTERS MAY WISH TO ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF GUIDANCE AT THEIR JUNE MEETING, POSSIBLY IN RESTRICTED SESSION, OR IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR ACTION IN NOTING NATO FORCE GOALS.

4. FYI. WE HAVE UNDER STUDY NOW POSSIBLE CHANGES IN NATO FORCE PLANNING CYCLE, AS WELL AS CERTAIN ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO IMPROVING MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE THAT MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT ENTAIL CHANGES IN THE PLANNING CYCLE AS SUCH. PENDING COMPLETION OF THESE STUDIES, WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO SUGGEST SPECIFIC ACTION ON MAJOR CHANGES, SUCH AS PLACING MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE ON ANNUAL BASIS. END FYI.

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